

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05

TRSE-00 H-01 /051 W

-----028491 211552Z /43

R 211250Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 4807

INFO CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

COMIDEASTFOR

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

JCS WASHINGTON DC

CNO WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MANAMA 1323/1

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : MORG, PFOR, BA

SUBJECT : MIDEASTFORCE NEGOTIATIONS

REF : (A) STATE 136927 (B) STATE 138259 (C) MANAMA 1220

1. AMBASSADOR MET WITH GOB LEGAL ADVISOR JUNE 21. LEGAL ADVISOR PLEASSED THAT USG HAS ACCEPTED HIS CHANGES TO NOTE A. HE WAS PLEASSED AS WELL WITH OUR FORTHCOMINGNESS ON LEASE WHICH HE PREFERS TO HAVE REMAIN AS IN MANAMA REFTEL -- THAT IS, MINUS ARTICLE SIXTEEN AND MINUS PHRASE IN ARTICLE TEN. NUMBER OF MAC FLIGHTS REMAINS TO BE SETTLED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, ACCORDING LEGAL ADVISOR, AND AMBASSADOR EXPECTS SEE FONMIN IN NEXT DAY OR TWO. ALSO, WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT CIVIL AVAITION AUTHORITIES MAY BE ENCOURAGING FONMIN TO REDUCE SIZE OF AREA USED BY NAVY AT AIRPORT. AMBASSADOR WILL CONSULT CLOSELY WITH COMIDEASTFOR ON POSSIBLE FALLBACKS ON THIS QUESTION.

2. LEGAL ADVISOR AGREED TO MOST OF CHANGES TO NOTE B SUGGESTED

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REF (A), LATEST REFORMULATION BELOW, WITH EXCEPTION THAT HE WANTED PHRASE BEGINNING "FOR PURPOSES OF PERFORMING TASKS..." RETAINED AS IN MANAMA REFTEL. ULTIMATELY, HOWEVER, HE AGREED TO DELETE "PERFORMING TASKS" AND ACCEPTED FALLBACK LANGUAGE "FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT." LEGAL ADVISOR DID NOT SEE NEED FOR EXCHANGE OF LETTERS TO CLARIFY THAT THIS PHRASE INCLUDES VISITING

SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT SINCE, IN HIS VIEW, SUPPORT OF SUCH UNITS IS OBVIOUSLY A FUNCTION OF ADMIN SUPPORT UNIT. LEGAL ADVISOR SAID HE HAD TO CUT MEETING SHORT AND SUGGESTED THAT AMBASSADOR SUGGEST LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD MEET NEED TO CONNECT ADMIN SUPPORT UNIT TO VISITING UNITS AND PERSONNEL. WOULD PHRASE "WHICH INCLUDES SUPPORT OF VISITING VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT" INSERTED IN LAST PARA OF NOTE B, SEE BELOW, MEET OUR NEED IN THIS REGARD?

3. LEGAL ADVISOR RAISED ONE FURTHER POINT. HE CONTENDED THAT SOFA PROVISIONS SHOULD NOT APPLY TO DOD-SPONSORED STUDENTS AT BAHRAIN SCHOOL WHO ARE NOT DEPENDENTS OF PERSONNEL RESIDENT IN BAHRAIN. WE ASSUME THAT SUCH STUDENTS MUST BE COVERED (PLEASE CONFIRM) AND AMBASSADOR PLANS TO RAISE THIS WITH FONMIN.

4. FOLLOWING IS LATEST REFORMULATION OF NOTE B.

QUOTE

EXCELLENCY:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS CULMINATING IN THE AGREEMENT OF (DATE OF SIGNING NOTE A) TO TERMINATE AS OF JUNE 30, 1977, THE AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 23, 1971, CONCERNING THE DEPLOYMENT IN BAHRAIN OF THE UNITED STATES MIDDLE EAST FORCE. MY
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GOVERNMENT PROPOSES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE TWO AND ARTICLES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE (AS AMENDED HEREIN) OF THE TERMINATED AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 23, 1971, AND PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING ARTICLES EIGHT AND ELEVEN THEREOF, AS CONTAINED IN THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS OF JULY 31, 1975, SHALL NEVERTHELESS CONTINUE TO BE APPLIED BY BAHRAINI AUTHORITIES IN THE COURSE OF DEALING WITH THE STATUS OF THOSE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL WHO MAY RESIDE IN OR VISIT BAHRAIN AFTER JUNE 30, 1977 FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT.

MY GOVERNMENT FURTHER PROPOSES THAT WHEREVER THE PHRASE "UNITED STATES FORCE" APPEARS IN THE AFOREMENTIONED ARTICLES, THE PHRASE "PERSONNEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT" BE SUBSTITUTED. IN ADDITION, ARTICLES FOUR AND TWELVE SHOULD BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"(4). PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS SHALL BE APPLICABLE TO PERSONNEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE PERSONNEL ABOARD U.S. VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT VISITING BAHRAIN, WHO WILL BE FURNISHED WITH APPROPRIATE IDENTIFICATION WHICH SHALL BE PRODUCED, UPON DEMAND, TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF

THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN. PERSONNEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT WILL BE EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION AND CONTROL AS ALIENS, BUT WILL NOT BY REASON OF THEIR ENTRY INTO BAHRAIN BE REGARDED AS ACQUIRING ANY RIGHTS TO PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN BAHRAIN."

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"(12). THE TERM "PERSONNEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT" MEANS U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL WHO MAY RESIDE IN OR VISIT TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS, BUT EXCLUDING INDIGENOUS BAHRAINI NATIONALS AND OTHER PERSONS ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN BAHRAIN TERRITORY, PROVIDED THAT SUCH NATIONALS OR OTHER PERSONS ARE NOT DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT."

MY GOVERNMENT FURTHER PROPOSES THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ENTER INTO ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL CONFIRM THE AUTHORIZATION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR VISITS OF UMSM VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT TO BAHRAIN AND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL IN BAHRAIN FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT, WHICH INCLUDES SUPPORT OF VISITING VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT, AND WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR COMPENSATION TO BAHRAIN IN CONSIDERATION OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS. IF THE FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN, I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR NOTE
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IN REPLY CONFIRMING ITS ACCEPTANCE WILL CONSTITUTE AN
AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS REGARDING THIS MATTER.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: MORG, PFOR, BA
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